

Yeomen wrestler dominates the squared circle

By MORLEY CONN

Courtney Lewis has helped put York's name on the map, but only those who follow Canadian university wrestling know it.

Lewis, ranked second in his 158-pound weight class, competes for the Yeomen Olympic freestyle wrestling team that is currently ranked third in the CIAU with Lewis.

"There's no one superstar on this team. It might seem like I stand out because of my improvement over the last few years," explained Lewis.

Two weeks ago at the Eastern Michigan Dual Meet which York won, the 5'9" 23-year-old beat Joel Smith of Michigan State, who is ranked second nationally in the NCAA. Lewis also defeated last year's CIAU champ Gord Rinky at the Simon Fraser Tournament three weeks ago.

Lewis attributes his new successes to a strict training regimen. The team practises on the mats for two hours everyday except Sunday. Wrestlers are responsible for their own condi-

tioning, which they do in the morning.

Lewis's conditioning programme consists of running, weight training, and swimming.

Lewis, in his third year at York, majors in sociology with an eye toward attending teacher's college. "Our coach (John Park) encour-

"One step at a time — that's exactly how the York wrestling programme has turned itself around."

ages us to keep up good marks," said Lewis, "and we also try to choose classes that will fit our schedules."

Because of his dedication to wrestling, Lewis has had to make some sacrifices. Wrestling demands have forced him to take only four courses rather than the standard five; he picks up his fifth course during the summer.

Despite school and wrestling, the Kitchener native still finds time for other interests. Lewis is a big football fan, but also enjoys music, American history, and movies.

"The team is really coming together. I don't want to count our eggs before they're hatched, but this team — with its veterans back and rookies wrestling well — should win the CIAUs. But the OUAs first. One step at a time," said Lewis.

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

"Coach Park has worked really hard along with the assistant coaches to make this team competitive," said Lewis.

Although he is setting his sights on the upcoming OUAA and CIAU finals (held this March at York), Lewis is keeping the 1992 Barcelona Olympics in the back of his mind. "I think that if everything goes well," he said, "the Olympics are not out of reach."



WINNING SMILE: York wrestler Courtney Lewis has been dominating the mats around the OUAA this year.

Basketball men earn first win

By SYDNEY ST. NICHOLAS

The only thing saving the Basketball Yeomen from being cellar dwellers in the OUAA Central division is the Ryerson Rams.

York crawled past Ryerson in the standings by downing the lowly Rams 67-58 at home last Tuesday. The win was York's first of the season.

The Yeomen jumped into the lead from the outset and lost it only once, when Ryerson's Gary James sunk two free throws to give the Rams a 14-13 lead during the first half. York held on the rest of the way scoring their last eight points from the free throw stripe.

According to James, Ryerson's problems stemmed from a lack of execution. "The game plan was to try and execute the offence and minimize the turnovers," explained the Ram forward. "The only problem

was that things were not flowing."

The only thing that flowed for the Rams was mental error. Trailing 55-53, Ryerson guard Ted Rowe found an opening, pulled up for a wide open jumper and stepped out of bounds. That was the type of game it was for Ryerson. York capitalized on the mistake and built up a 65-53 gap before Ryerson was able to score again.

The Yeomen on the other hand, committed 22 turnovers but won the battle of the boards with a convincing 42-28 edge. Leading the Yeomen on the glass was Steve Szagala who was solid with 14 rebounds.

After his poor first half performance, York's Jeff Mcdermid woke up. Mcdermid exploded in the second, notching 22 points and grabbing eight rebounds to the dismay of the Ryerson squad.

"I wanted to win. I was afraid that if I didn't have a good second half we

would lose," said Mcdermid.

A welcome surprise for York was the inspired play of newcomers Mark Belai and Mike Yuhasz. Belai continued his hot shooting to the tune of 19 points. Yuhasz, also a rookie forward, gave his usual 110%, collecting six offensive rebounds and diving after several loose balls.

The Rams were led by Ainsworth Sloane who had 11 points on the night.

York's home game is Friday, January 20 when they host Carleton at 8:00 p.m.

EXTRA HOOPS: The Yeomen were looking to improve their record this past weekend as they travelled to Montreal to face McGill and Concordia. However, they dropped a close 83-80 decision to Concordia on Friday night. On Saturday, the Yeomen were handed a 101-87 loss by the McGill Redmen, bringing York's season record to a dismal 1-6.

Hockey Yeomen split Ohio exhibition games

By PAMELA JARVIS

The Yeomen hockey team headed south last weekend. York split a pair of exhibition games with Ohio State University. After dropping the first game by a 7-1 score, the Yeomen fought back to win the second 5-4 in overtime.

SPORTS SHORTS

Several players had a hand in scoring over the weekend. York coach Graham Wise also used the opportunity to rotate all three of his goaltenders through the two games.

Veteran Greg Rolston had York's only goal in the opener. Saturday's game saw Rolston, Luciano Fagioli, Rob Crocock, Kevin Bonello, and Ian Ferguson score singles.

ICE CHIPS: Yeomen alumni Brian Gray (84-88), Dave Andreoli (84-88), and Tom Van Natter (85-88) are presently pursuing their Master's

degrees at Ohio University.

In regular league play last Tuesday night, the Yeomen suffered their fifth loss of the season.

The U of T Varsity Blues took advantage of a depleted York roster to post a 4-1 win.

York's top defenceman, rookie Guy Girouard, was serving a suspension. In addition, three of York's starting forwards were injured: Brian McDonald (broken ankle), Greg Roberts (pulled groin), and Ian Baelle (separated shoulder).

Toronto forward Dean Haig led the Blues' attack with a hat trick. Yeoman randy Walker spoiled Toronto goalie Paul Henriques' shutout bid late in the third period. defenceman Rob Crocock was York's player of the game.

The Yeomen are hoping to get back on track this weekend. They travel to Brock on Friday, January 20 (7:30 p.m.) and take on McMaster at Hamilton on Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

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